Paula Montano

PhD Researcher

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in Paula Montano ⌂ paula-montano 𝕏 PaulaMontano

## Current Position

PhD Candidate *University College Dublin* **Dublin, Ireland** *09/2021 - present*
- Dissertation: Strategic Crisis Communication and Behaviour in the European Union During the Euro Crisis.
- Supervision: Assoc.-Prof. James P. Cross

Research Assistant *University College Dublin* **Dublin, Ireland** *01/2022 - present*
Projects: Irish Polling Indicator Project and Irish Politics Data with Dr. Stefan Müller
- Collect demographic data on Irish public opinion to estimate support for parties in Ireland, sources: *Sunday Times, Behaviour & Attitudes* and *RedC polls*.
- Collect the most important issues in Ireland, source: *Ireland Thinks Polls* (Kevin Cunningham).
- Pre-process party manifestos in Ireland for Local and European Parliament elections and combine them into a text corpus. (Michael Pidgeon shared a subset of manifestos: `https://pidgeon.ie/`)

Education

Cert Higher Education Teaching Support *University College Dublin* *2021-2022*
MSc International Development *University College Dublin* *2019-2020*
Dissertation: How economic satisfaction modifies the effect of levels of education on attitudes towards integration.
- Relevant Courses: Intro to Statistics, Data Visualization in R & Research Methods in Political Science

BA International Bussiness and Foreign Affairs *Pontifical Catholic University of Ecuador* *2011-2016*
Dissertation: The Role of Ecuador in the South-American Integration: UNASUR case.
- Relevant Courses: Mathematics, Political Science Theory, Finance, Accounting I and II.

Research

Working Papers..

Grandstanding under the Spotlight: Unveiling Elites Crisis Communication in the Council of the European Union *(with James P. Cross and Yen-Chieh Liao).*

Exceptional Measures for Exceptional Times: Deciphering Emergency Politics Motivators in the Council of the European Union in the Euro Crisis *(Paula Montano).*

Work in Progress...

Sharing Debt or Grandstanding? Strategic Parliamentary Communication in the Face of the Euro Crisis *(Paula Montano).*

Strategic Crisis Jargon in the EU? Mapping Crisis Communication in the Council of the European Union *(Paula Montano).*

Datasets and Code...

Irish Local and EP Election Manifestos *(With Stefan Müller and Artur Baranov)* *2024*
- Data: `https://github.com/stefan-mueller/iemanifestos`

- Dashboard: `https://irishpoliticsdata.shinyapps.io/manifestoexplorer/`

Irish Demographic Polling Datasets *(With Stefan Müller and Thomas Pluck)* *2024*
- Data: `https://github.com/Irish-Dem-Polling/datasets`

- Dashboard: `https://irishpoliticsdata.shinyapps.io/demographicpolling/`

flaiR, R wrapper to access flaiR NLP library for R users *(With Yen-Chieh Liao)* *2024*
- GitHub Repository: `https://davidycliao.github.io/flaiR/`

Research Grants and Awards

Total Value of Grants: **€81,320**

APSA Pol Com Travel Award, Political Communication Section APSA Conference *$500 (€461)* *2024*
Vera E. Troeger Scholarship for Women in Political Methodology. *£1,200 (€1,409)* *2024*
Essex Summer School in Social Science Data Analysis
Research Grant School of Politics and International Relations UCD *€750* *2024*
PEC Travel Grant Political Studies Association of Ireland *€800* *2023*
Research Grant School of Politics and International Relations UCD *€600* *2023*
Fellowship for Women in Political Methodology *(Full tuition cost and accommodation)* *2023*
University of Basel
Research Grant School of Politics and International Relations UCD *€300* *2022*
Iseult Honohan Doctoral Scholarship UCD *€77,000* *2021-2025*

Teaching

University College Dublin – Undergraduate level (Head Tutor / Teaching Assistant)
POL20050: Research Methods in Political Science *Spring 2022/2023/2024*
- *Conducted hands-on tutorials for learning the DeclareDesign package for experimental research in R.*
- *Conducted hands-on tutorials for learning research methods for data analysis in R.*
- *Conducted tutorials for learning research methods in STATA.*

POL20010: Individuals and the State: The idea of Freedom in the History of Political Thought *Autumn 2024/2023*
- *Prepared guidelines for using generative AI tools for enhancing writing assignments. (with Dr. James P. Cross)*

INRL20160: Introduction to EU Politics *Autumn 2022*
- *Conducted a lecture on 'Writing Skills and Peer Review Process'.*
- *Review and provide feedback on blog posts on EU Politics.*

INRL10010: Foundations of Political Theory and International Relations *Autumn 2021/2022*
- *Prepared interactive and engaging tutorials for discussing political theory and international relations content.*

Conferences and Workshops

American Political Science Association *09/2024*
- Featured paper: *Grandstanding in the EU? Elites crisis communication under the spotlight.*
- Location: Philadelphia, United States

European Political Science Association *07/2024*
- Featured paper: *Grandstanding under the Spotlight: Unveiling Elites Crisis Communication in the Council of the European Union.*
- Featured paper: *Exceptional Measures for Exceptional Times: Deciphering Emergency Politics in the Council of the European Union in the Euro Crisis.*
- Location: Cologne, Germany

Standing Group in the EU Conference, ECPR *06/2024*
- Featured paper: *Exceptional Measures for Exceptional Times: Deciphering Emergency Politics in the Council of the European Union in the Euro Crisis.*
- Location: Lisbon, Portugal

COMPTEXT *05/2024*
- Featured paper: *Grandstanding under the Spotlight: Unveiling Elites Crisis Communication in the Council of the European Union.*
- Location: Amsterdam, Netherlands

Discourse in the Data PhD Workshop, Duitslaand Instituut Amsterdam *04/2024*
- Featured paper: *Grandstanding under the Spotlight: Unveiling Elites Crisis Communication in the Council of the European Union*
- Location: Amsterdam, Netherlands

Political Studies Association of Ireland *2022, 2023*
- Featured paper: *Emergency Politics in the EU Council: Assessing European Elites Communication in the Euro Crisis.*
- Location: Dublin, Ireland

PhD Workshop, School of Politics and International Relations, UCD *2022, 2023*
- Working paper: *Emergency Politics in the EU Council: Assessing European Elites Communication in the Euro Crisis.*
- *PhD project research design.*
- Location: Dublin, Ireland

Academic Service

PhD Representative, School of Politics and International Relations, UCD	*07/2023 – present*
Co-organiser, COMPTEXT Conference (Hosted by UCD)	*05/2022*
Committee Member Diversity & Inclusion for Ad Astra Applicant Pool, UCD	*01/2022*
Conference Support, PSAI Conference (Hosted by UCD)	*10/2021*

Training and Summer Schools

Essex Summer School Social Science Data *University of Essex* — *08/2024*
- *Course: Ideal Point Estimation, Item Response Theory, and Scaling Methods for Surveys and Behaviour.*

Oxford LLMs Workshop for Social Science Researchers *University of Oxford* — *09/2023*
- *Courses: Fundamentals of Large Language Models, Model Interpretation and Debiasing, Recent Developments: Large Language Models and Alignment and coding sessions.*

Summer School for Women in Political Methodology *University of Basel* — *07/2023*
- *Courses: R packages and Functions, Advanced Graphics in R, Web-Scraping, Text Analysis, Word Embeddings, Images as Data.*

Essex Summer School in Social Science Data Analysis *University of Essex* — *07/2022*
- *Course: Introduction to Quantitative Text Analysis*

Quantitative Skills

- **Programming languages:** R (advanced), Python (intermediate), Git, GitHub, LaTeX (advanced)
- **Natural Language Processing:** Embeddings (GloVe, Text2Vec), Scaling Methods, Machine Learning, Gen AI (Large Language Models)

Languages

Spanish (native) - English (fluent) - French (fluent) - German (CEFR: B1)

Academic References

Dr. James P. Cross   *Associate Professor University College Dublin*
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Dr. Stefan Müller   *Associate Professor University College Dublin*
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